(c) when the proposals were submitted by the Hindustan Shipyard Limited in this regard;

(d) whether the said proposals have been finalised; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Lovraj Kumar was appointed by Government in December, 1986 to suggest long term solutions to the financial problems of Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, The Committee did not specifically recommend re-structuring of the capital base of HSL. However, it recommended, *inter alia*, that all outstanding loans of HSL should be converted into equity.

(c) HSL had separately submitted a proposal for restructuring its capital base in January, 1985.

(d) and (e) The matter is under consideration.

National Highway in Tamil Nadu

402. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Government have sent proposals to Government of India to declare sixteen State roads totalling to 3355 Kms. as National Highways;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Twenty Year Road Development Plan for the period 1981—2001 drawn by the Centre stipulates that National Highways grid should be expanded to form a square grid of 100 Kms. side by 2001 horizon;

(c) if so, whether the proposals of Tamil Nadu Government are receiving immediate attention of the Government; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Tamil Nadu State by above stipulation should have National Highways to a total length of about 2600 Kms. by the year 2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The recommendations made by the 20-Years Plan are intended only to serve as guidelines for the formulation of Central/State Sector Roads Programmes. Actual implementation of the Plan is dependent upon several factors including availability of resources in different Plan periods. The decision to declare new N.Hs in the country including in Tamil Nadu could be considered only after the finalisation of 8th Five Year Plan. It is therefore not possible to indicate the total length of National Highways by the year 2001.

Construction of building for Speed Post Office, Pondicherry

403. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Head Post Office Building at Pondicherry is virtually in a dilapidated condition, lacking in space and other facilities to the employees;

(b) whether the Postal Employees Federations have been demanding complete demolition of the said Head Post Office building and construction of a multistoryed building;

(c) if so, whether the Department has taken any steps to construct proper building for Head Post Office, Pondicherry;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is also a fact that there is any proposal for construction of Air-conditioned Inspection Quarters for Officers at Pondicherry Head Post Office which is likely to cost more than rupees 18 lakhs; and